

## **Laboratory Response Network – Electronic Laboratory Reporting (ELR)**

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The anthrax events of 2001 accentuated challenges faced by public health with existing electronic laboratory reporting (ELR) mechanisms. Clinical, state, and federal laboratories need a standing network for electronic data exchange. ELR technology was developed for the national Laboratory Response Network member laboratories to allow standardized reporting between facilities. Implementation and use of critical software, hardware, and processes before a bioterrorism event can prevent delays in dissemination of information and data to decision makers.